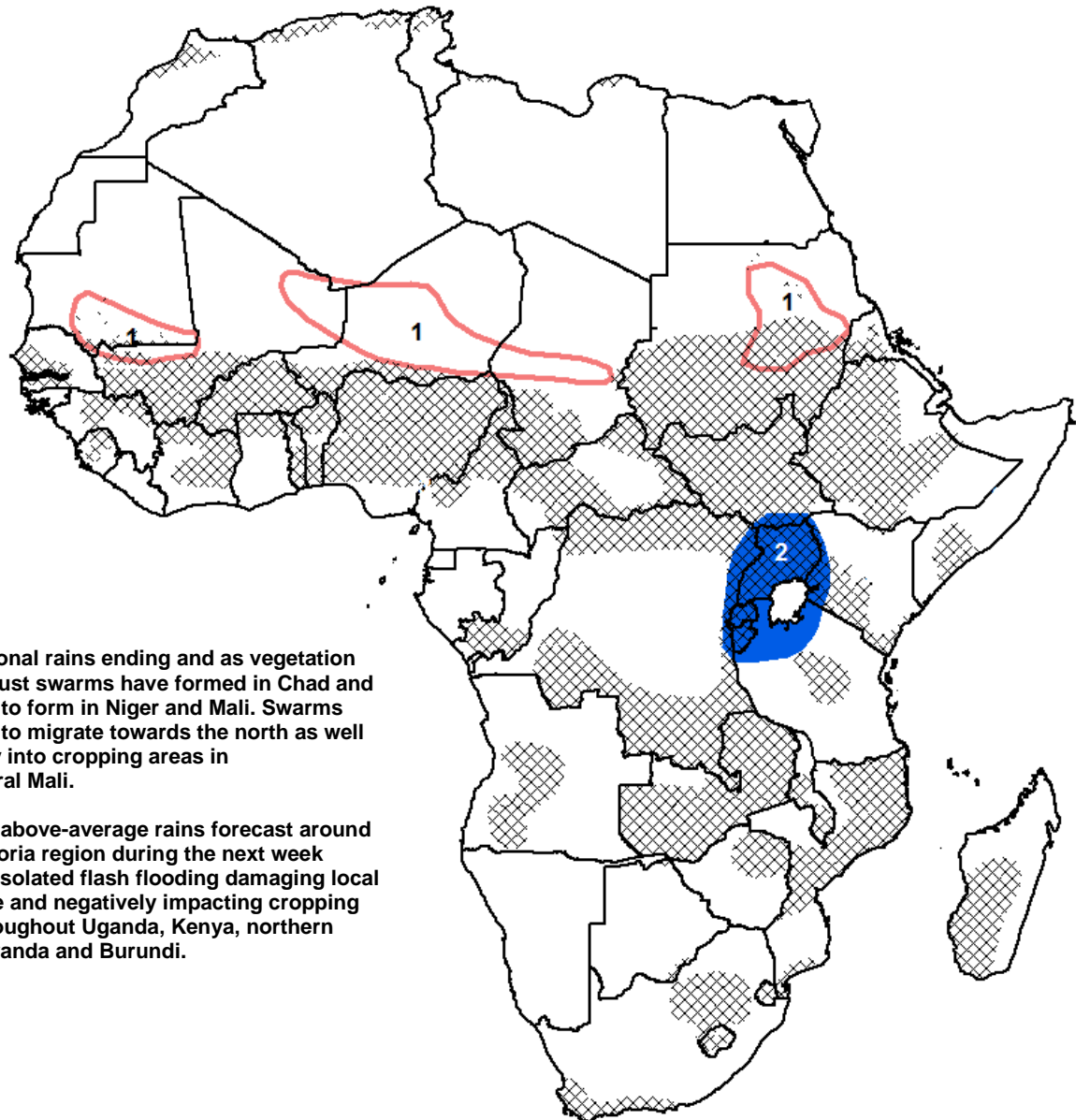


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 1 – November 7, 2012









- Tropical Storm Murjan brings heavy rains and flash flooding to northern Somalia.
- Flooding continues across portions of Nigeria and Ghana as heavy rains impact the region.



1) With seasonal rains ending and as vegetation dries out, locust swarms have formed in Chad and are expected to form in Niger and Mali. Swarms are expected to migrate towards the north as well as potentially into cropping areas in western/central Mali.

2) Torrential, above-average rains forecast around the Lake Victoria region during the next week could cause isolated flash flooding damaging local infrastructure and negatively impacting cropping activities throughout Uganda, Kenya, northern Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.

	November Cropped Areas
	Favorable
	Somewhat Favorable
	Flooding
	Short-term Dryness
	Drought
	Improving Drought
	Potential Locust Outbreak

Torrential rains observed across Ghana and southern Nigeria.

During the past seven days, rains across West Africa continued to be above-average and moderate to heavy (>25mm). The highest precipitation totals (>75mm) were observed across central and northern Ghana, southeastern Nigeria and localized areas in Liberia and Sierra Leone. Above-average weekly rains have been consistent during the last 4 to 5 weeks across West Africa. This has resulted in widespread flooding across southern Nigeria including flash flooding and flooding along the Niger, Benue, Chari and Yobe Rivers. Torrential rains have also caused flooding across portions of Ghana. Moderate rains (10-30mm) extended as far north as Guinea, southern Mali, and southern Burkina Faso (**Figure 1**). Rains have begun to taper off farther north across the Sahel as seasonal rains withdrawal from the region.

As a result of the above-average rainfall during the past one to two months, flooding risks have continued to be elevated across a wide region of West Africa even as rains seasonally withdraw from the region. In an analysis of excess rainfall across West Africa, moderate risks for flooding are present across central and southeastern Nigeria, coastal Ghana and Cote D'Ivoire and northern Togo and Benin (**Figure 2**). Flooding has already been reported across Nigeria and coastal Ghana during the past several weeks.

For the next week, rains are forecast to be below-average across West Africa. Light to moderate rains (<25mm) are expected across saturated areas in southern Nigeria and Ghana with the heaviest rains (20-40mm) located farther west in Liberia and Sierra Leone. Farther north across the Sahel, little to no rain (<10mm) is expected.

TS Murjan brings heavy rain to northern Somalia.

The largest impact across eastern Africa during the past seven days was the landfall of Tropical Storm Murjan in northern Somalia. While Murjan did not have strong winds, heavy (>40mm), above-average rains impacted northern and central Somalia and southern Ethiopia. The storm resulted in fatalities, flash flooding, loss of livestock and damages to infrastructure including bridges and homes in the Bari region of northeastern Somalia. Elsewhere, weekly rainfall was above-average across South Sudan and southern Sudan while rains were below-average in northern Kenya and northeastern Uganda (**Figure 3**). Deyr seasonal rainfall has been slightly above-average in central and southern Somalia, and below-average in eastern Kenya. For the next week, models forecast an above-average chance for above-average precipitation around the Lake Victoria region including Uganda, western Kenya, northern Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi as heavy rains (>50mm) are expected. The heavy rains could cause localized flash flooding during the next week. Farther north, moderate rains (10-50mm) are forecast in southern Somalia, South Sudan and western Ethiopia with light rains elsewhere.

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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